IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Box 5eq

In re Application of: ALAJEM Sara, et al Serial No.: 09/727,480 Filed: December 4, 2000 Group Art Unit: 1634 Oligonucleotides And Assemblies For: Thereof Useful In The Detection Of The Presence Or Absence Of Target Nucleic Acid Sequences Attorney Docket: 00/21400 Examiner: Jeffrey N. Fredman

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action sent July 7, 2003, a response to which is due, and being made, within two months. Please amend the above-identified application as follows: